

U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. JEREMY MCGUFFIN

C-130s from the 314th Airlift Wing, Little Rock Air Force Base and 317th AW, Dyess Air Force Base, Texas, fly in formation over the beaches of Normandy, France, while participating in fly-over events June 4. More than 25 aircraft and 2,000 military personnel from various units and countries participated in approximately 55 commemorative D-Day events from May 31 through June 9. D-Day remains a historic reminder of how the dedicated resolve of allies with a common purpose and shared vision can build proven partnerships that endure.

Upcoming medical group reforms to drive readiness

By Col. Imelda Catalasan
19th Medical Group

Coming to a medical treatment facility near you—an intensely mission-focused 19th Medical Group!

In February 2019, the secretary of the Air Force directed the Air Force surgeon general to realign medical efforts to focus on readiness Air Force-wide. This model stemmed from the medical reform initiated at the 366th Fighter Wing, Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho. The Mountain Home clinic was restructured to incorporate an operational medical readiness squadron serving Total Force Airmen who are required to be medically ready to deploy, as well as a healthcare operations squadron serving all other beneficiaries. The medical reform proved successful in proactively managing “downed Airmen,” resulting in improved readiness and squadron deployability. At the end of the day, this service-wide change is primarily driven by that — our continued focus on readiness.

On June 24, the 19th Aerospace Medicine Squadron and the 19th Medical Operations Squadron will be officially re-designated as the 19th Operational Medical Readiness Squadron and the 19th Healthcare Operations Squadron, respectively. The 19th Medical Support Squadron will remain.

In this new construct, all Total Force military beneficiaries will be assigned to the OMR clinic under the 19th OMRS. This new model allows us to proactively manage Total Force medical care, effectively improving personnel availability while restoring readiness, deployability and force lethality. Each squadron will be assigned to

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U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY CYNTHIA GRIGGS

Master Sgt. Allen Clutter, a flight engineer attached to the 514th Flight Test Squadron, inspects the propellers while performing a pre-flight functional flight check on a Navy C-130 Hercules on April 11 at Hill Air Force Base, Utah.

Enlisted aircrew paramount to C-130 Hercules flight testing

HILL AIR FORCE BASE, Utah – Not many people know that a small contingent of experienced enlisted C-130 Hercules aircrew reside at Hill Air Force Base. They are charged with the depot support flights of Air Force overflow and Navy and Marine Corps aircraft.

“There aren’t many people who do what we do,” said Master Sgt. Allen Clutter, a C-130 flight engineer attached to the 514th Flight Test Squadron at Hill AFB.

Clutter, along with loadmaster Senior Master Sgt. Nicholas Palmer, are Air Force Reservists, on active-duty status, with what Clutter describes as probably one of the best enlisted assignments in the Air Force.

Clutter and Palmer are part of the aviation team whose job it is to perform functional check flight tests on the C-130 aircraft coming out of depot status from the Ogden Air Logistics Complex at Hill AFB.

Flight engineers are basically the link between the aircraft and the pilot, monitoring all aircraft engine and control systems in flight. They also compute takeoff and landing data, and perform pre-flight and post-flight inspections when the aircraft is away from its home station. During the functional flight check, they perform comprehensive in-flight checks.

Their system knowledge is paramount to the safe and effective operation of the aircraft.

Loadmasters control and inspect the back of the aircraft, ensuring the safety of the people and cargo by computing weight and balance, creating cargo and passenger load plans and other mission-specific tasks such as airdrop duties. In addition, they function as a

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COMBAT AIRLIFTER OF THE WEEK



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY TECH. SGT. JESSICA CONDIT

NAME AND RANK

Staff Sgt. Joshua Samons

UNIT

189th Logistics Readiness Squadron

DUTY TITLE

Ground transportation specialist

HOMETOWN

Cabot

TIME IN SERVICE

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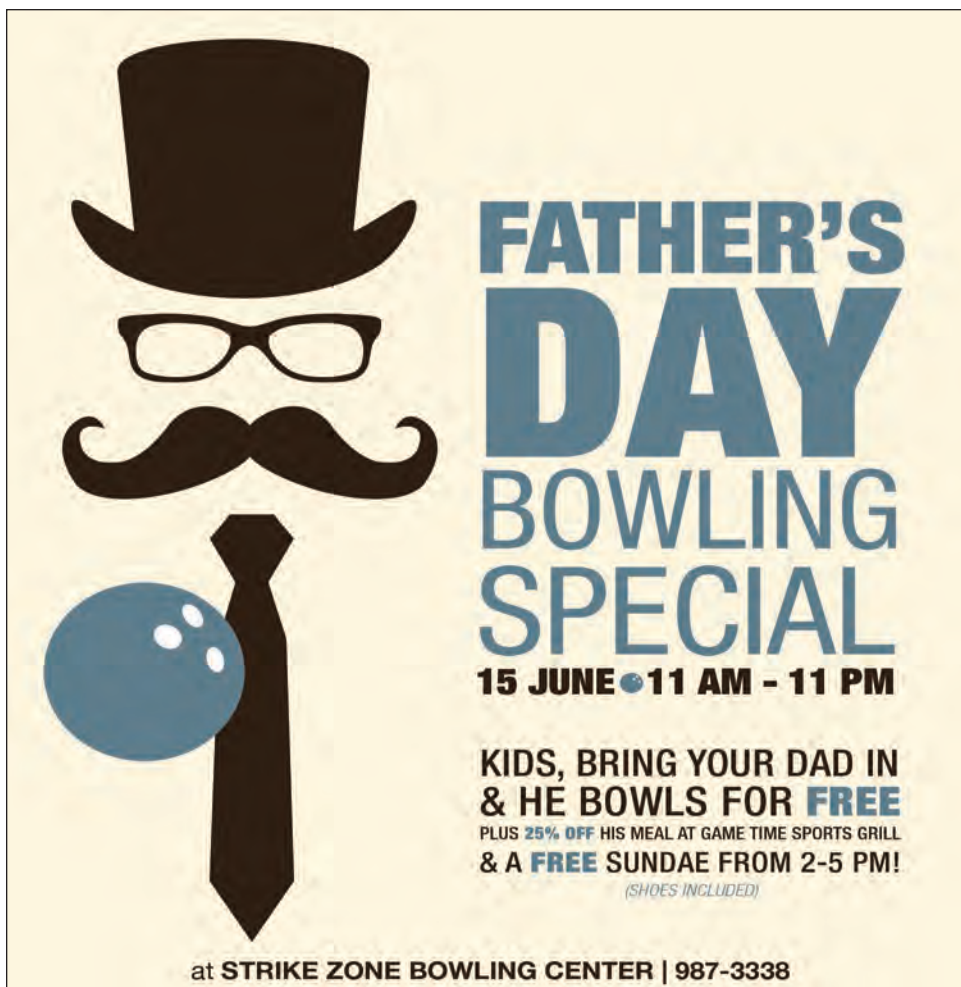


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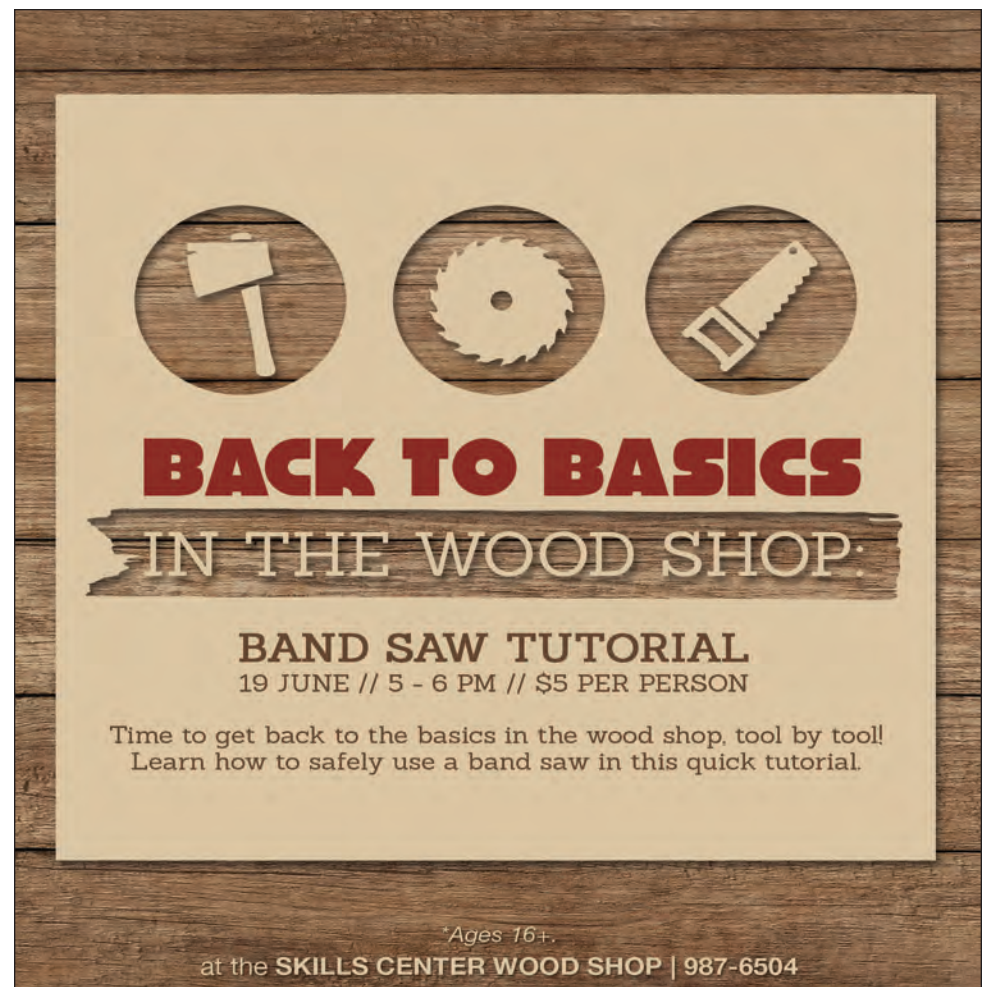
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Honoring NORMANDY


U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTOS BY
STAFF SGT. JEREMY MCGUFFIN




C-130s from the 19th Airlift Wing at Little Rock Air Force Base and the 317th AW, Dyess AFB, Texas, perform a flyover at the 1st Infantry Division memorial at Omaha Beach, Normandy, France, on June 3. The 1st Infantry Division, "Big Red One", held a special ceremony at the monument remembering those in that unit who lost their lives between June 6 and July 24, 1944.



U.S. Air Force Capt. Michael DeSandre, 41st Airlift Squadron pilot, walks to the grave site of Pvt. Joseph Costa Jr. at the Normandy American Cemetery and Memorial, Colleville-sur-Mer, France, on June 3. Costa was very close to DeSandre's family, and he took this opportunity to pay his respects. The men and women of the U.S. military remain forever indebted to WWII veterans who demonstrated the selfless service and sacrifice that characterizes the Greatest Generation in defense of global peace and security.



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TLR commemorates D-Day

U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTOS BY STAFF SGT. JEREMY MCGUFFIN



Viewers of the Army's 2nd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment remembrance ceremony capture the moment with veterans who fought during World War II at Pointe du Hoc, France, on June 5. The ceremony was dedicated to the original 190 Rangers who scaled the cliffs 75 years ago. While the nature of war has changed dramatically and the battlefield has shifted into other domains, the courage and valor of the WWII members is everlasting.



U.S. Army Soldiers assigned to 2nd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment wearing time-period uniforms were hand selected from their unit to scale the cliffs of Utah Beach, Pointe du Hoc, France, on June 5. The Soldiers dedicated the climb in remembrance of the original 190 Rangers who scaled those same cliffs 75 years ago. Seventy-five years later, the bravery and heroism by all allies on D-Day continue to resonate with U.S. forces in Europe — who remain steadfast in their commitment to European allies and partners.

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(Above) Re-enactors riding an M-4 Sherman tank roll into Camp Geronimo, a recreation of a World War II forward-operating camp, as onlookers capture the event at Sainte-Mère-Église, France, on June 5. D-Day reflects the strength of enduring relationships and proven partnerships. This historic relationship has allowed U.S. forces to remain ready and have the strategic access in Europe to accomplish high-priority missions with our European allies and partners.

(Left) A C-130J Super Hercules assigned to the 19th Airlift Wing at Little Rock Air Force Base flies over Pointe du Hoc, France, as onlookers are treated to a display of the U.S. Air Force's current mobility workhorse June 5. The flyover was dedicated to the Army's 2nd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment during their remembrance ceremony. The men and women of the U.S. military remain forever indebted to World War II veterans who demonstrated the selfless service and sacrifice that characterizes the Greatest Generation in defense of global peace and security.

U.S. Army Ranger Sgt. Rocky Rutherford, 2nd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, was hand-selected to participate this year in the original World War II uniform while scaling the cliffs of Utah Beach at Pointe du Hoc, France, on June 5. Soldiers dedicated the climb in remembrance of the original 190 Rangers who scaled those cliffs 75 years ago. The D-Day Invasion of Normandy remains a historic reminder of how the dedicated resolve of allies with a common purpose and shared vision builds proven partnerships that endure.

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SPIRIT OF D-DAY LIVES ON ...



Maintainers from the 19th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron keep an eye on the plane during engine startup at Cherbourg-Maupertus Airport, France, on June 6. Maintainers from the 19th AMXS were responsible for keeping C-130J Super Hercules in the air during commemorative events of the 75th anniversary of D-Day.



U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Christopher Bowman, 19th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chief, begins startup of the auxillary power unit on the C-130J Super Hercules as part of his checklists at Cherbourg-Maupertus Airport, France, on June 6. Bowman meticulously worked his way through checklists the morning of the 75th Anniversary of D-Day to ensure the plane was ready for handoff to the flight crew.

... as Team Little Rock maintainers keep aircraft flying

STORY AND PHOTOS BY STAFF SGT. JEREMY MCGUFFIN

CHERBOURG, FRANCE – June 6 is a date that has become synonymous with valor, sacrifice and dedication.

As Operation Overlord commenced, thousands of men boarded aircraft bound for the Normandy coastline of France. As dawn approached, the feet of the men touched down as the first wave of the invasion hit. The leaders of the Allied Nations held their breath in hopes that this operation would be the beginning of the end of Nazi-controlled Europe.

Such an undertaking could never have taken place without a full complement of air, land and sea assault. More than 10,000 aircraft participated in the air assault on D-Day. At the time, the ratio of maintainers to bombers was approximately 80 to 1. Maintainers were instrumental in prepping, fixing and launching

aircraft during World War II.

75 years later, the same still holds true.

While technology has reduced the number of maintainers required to travel to a fleet of aircraft, the importance of their role has never lessened.

“This week was a little more unique because as we have been out here seeing the history first-hand, it has instilled a different sort of pride in my guys and they have applied it in their work,” said U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. William Lauland, 19th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron team lead. “Seeing what those men did back then and hearing their stories, it pays tribute to them to get our planes in the air and on time to the different events through the week.”

Team Little Rock participated in the commemora-

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U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Matthew Frederick, 19th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chief, positions the propellers of a C-130J Super Hercules into an unlocked position prior to startup at Cherbourg-Maupertus Airport, France, on June 6. Maintainers from the 19th AMXS were committed to keeping the C-130J Super Hercules in the air during commemorative events of the 75th anniversary of D-Day.



(Above) U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Devyn Freeze, 61st Airlift Squadron loadmaster, helps U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. William Lauland, 19th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron team lead, chalk on the historic letter and number assigned to the 61st Troop Carrier Squadron during D-Day 1944 at Cherbourg-Maupertus Airport, France, on June 6. The lettering allowed the personnel assigned to the unit to display their heritage and demonstrate their ability to provide rapid global mobility and agile combat airlift while commemorating the 75th anniversary of D-Day.
(Left) U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. William Lauland, 19th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron team lead, signs off on his team's checklist prior to handing the plane over to the flight crew at Cherbourg-Maupertus Airport, France, on June 6. Lauland and his team meticulously worked through checklists the morning of the 75th anniversary of D-Day.

U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. William Lauand, 19th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron team lead, gives a ceremonial pat on a C-130J Super Hercules prior to takeoff at Cherbourg-Maupertus Airport, France, on June 6. Maintainers from the 19th AMXS were responsible for keeping the C-130J Super Hercules in the air during commemorative events of the 75th anniversary of D-Day.



(Left) U.S. Air Force Staff Sgts. Jeffery Erdman and Christopher Bowman, 19th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chiefs, check the wheel well of a C-130J Super Hercules as part of their checklist prior to startup at Cherbourg-Maupertus Airport, France, on June 6. Erdman and Bowman meticulously worked their way through their technical orders on the morning of the 75th anniversary of D-Day to ensure the plane was ready for the day's aerial events.

(Right) Two Airmen high five in front of a C-130J.



Spirit

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tive events of the 75th anniversary of D-Day. The 41st, 61st and 62nd airlift squadrons performed flyovers of historic World War II locations and supported mass personnel drops of U.S. and coalition paratroopers over the La Fiere Drop Zone near Sainte-Mere-Eglise, France.

Maintainers from the 19th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron were committed to keeping C-130J Super Hercules in the air while honoring those who undertook the same charge in less certain circumstances with far less resources.

Prior to the departing to support the commemorative events, the 19th AMXS team coordinated with Ramstein Air Base in Germany for the pre-delivery of necessary equipment to the staging area in at the Cherbourg-Maupertus Airport in Normandy, France.

“A week prior to us arriving, crews from Ramstein Air Base, Germany, dropped off maintenance stands, tools, and common parts needed on a daily basis,” Lauland said. “It made our job easier here, and we didn’t have to worry about bringing a lot of that with us. It allowed us to concentrate on our work at hand.”

The history of D-Day and what was accomplished mirrors what the maintainers do today, demonstrating the global reach of mobility aircraft – something the U.S. and its Allies do better than anyone else in history.

“Flying crew chiefs keep the aircraft fully [operational] throughout the multi-day missions,” said U.S. Air Force Capt. Michael DeSandre, 41st AS pilot. “Their knowledge and relentless work ethic fix virtually any aircraft malfunction and keep the aircraft a well-oiled machine so we can fly our dynamic missions. Our complex aircraft inevitably need maintenance, and our flying crew chiefs are absolutely invaluable.”

What started with C-47 Skytrains 75 years ago carries on with the C-130J Super Hercules today, showing the determination of not only its crews, but also the men and women who turn the wrenches and keep them flying.

Maintainers at the Home of Combat Airlift are fond of a motto: “Herk’s in the air — maintenance put it there.”



U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Jeffery Erdman, 19th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chief, locks the landing gear panel of a C-130J Super Hercules in place after inspection at Cherbourg-Maupertus Airport, France, on June 6. Erdman ensured the plane was ready to fly for the 75th anniversary of D-Day.

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Reform

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a primary care team in the OMR clinic, allowing the primary care teams to really get to know their concerns by learning about the challenges specific to the unit. The goal is to partner with commanders to provide them a more robust capability.

On the other hand, all other beneficiaries will continue to receive their medical care in the family health and pediatrics clinics under the 19th HCOS. It is important to note that there will be no changes to beneficiary support functions such as the pharmacy, the laboratory and radiology, which fall under 19th MDSS. However, the physical exam board liaison officers will move from the 19th MDSS to the 19th OMRS to better serve the active-duty beneficiaries. It is important to know that the physical locations where you receive care are not changing for the time being. But if you are ever unsure

about where you are going in our clinic – before or after these reforms – remember that you can always tag one of our medical professionals to help answer any questions ... we are here to help.

This change is exciting! The bottom line is this: While the medical squadrons may be organized differently, the patients will receive an enhanced level of care. Why? This re-alignment allows our providers to focus on health care issues based on the beneficiary type and to ensure a patient-centered approach resulting in enhanced patient experience. And if all goes as planned, most of this realignment should be transparent to beneficiaries.

My team remains committed to delivering safe, trusted care to all our beneficiaries – it's what we do best. As we continue to push forward on our readiness journey, the 19th MDG will continue to ensure medically ready forces and ready medics who support operational missions and our nation's national security priorities. Thank you for trusting the 19th MDG with your healthcare needs.



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Flight

Continued from page 2

lookout in the back of the aircraft for functional check flight engine shut downs and emergency landing gear extension.

Palmer, the squadron's most experienced loadmaster said, "Certification to perform functional check flights is a qualification that is unique and reserved only for the very experienced and for those with high flight-time hours."

Besides Clutter and Palmer, the 514th FTS is manned with two additional flight engineers, Senior Master Sgt. Thomas Butts and Master Sgt. Jason Wither- spoon and an additional loadmaster,

Master Sgt. Christopher Caminiti. The five aircrew have a culmination of over 90-years of experience and more than 10,000 hours of flight time, all in C-130 variant aircraft.

The C-130 Hercules is a versatile aircraft with long history dating back to the 1950s. Clutter said it is the workhorse of the military and he is proud to be a crewmember on an aircraft with such a storied history.

"It's the greatest job I've ever had in my whole career," Clutter said. "Checking the functionality of the aircraft is amazing. The aircraft has done so many things over its life and to be able to return these machines to the warfighter gives me a sense of satisfaction."



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